

Welcome and Introduction to Communicable Disease Surveillance
And Investigation in North Carolina
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The CD Branch Technical Assistance and Training Program (TATP) welcomes you as a course participant. I am Susan Sullivan, one of the communicable disease nurse consultants with the NC Division of Public Health. I am also serving as the course coordinator. This course is the result of a partnership between the Communicable Disease Branch and Wake AHEC. We are grateful for funding provided by the CDC as we strive to build and maintain our public health infrastructure.

The North Carolina Consolidated Agreement and Agreement Addenda # 510 require that every public health nurse with responsibility for communicable disease surveillance and investigation complete the *Introduction to Communicable Disease Surveillance and Investigation in North Carolina* course. The public health nurse should complete the course within one year of assuming responsibility for communicable disease investigations.

The foundation of CD nurse training is a 4 step process: 1) a face-to-face orientation provided for every new CD nurse by a regional nurse consultant within a week of NC EDSS training completion, 2) the successful completion of the online CD course, 3) attendance in at least two other trainings (i.e. webinars, on-site training, etc.) sponsored or supported by the CDB, and 4) the Annual CD Conference.

Step 1 provides onsite support for the new CD nurse to learn how to manage disease report workflows and prioritize investigation activities.

Step 2 delivers core knowledge. In the online CD course, there are 14 units with over thirty lectures recorded in webinar format. The course is designed to be completed sequentially. There are 2 or 3 quizzes, which are “knowledge check” questions from each lecture that will be presented at the end of each unit. You will need to complete the quizzes before advancing to the next unit of lectures. In addition to the webinars, you can download the power point presentations and the accompanying scripts to enhance your learning or if you want them for future reference. Links to them are available at the bottom of the course page. There are also optional readings and activities for each lecture that are all posted on our website: <https://epi.dph.ncdhhs.gov/cd/lhds/manuals/cd/training.html>

After the last lecture and quiz in Unit 14, the evaluation link will be available as the last item in the course. When you complete the evaluation, you will be directed to a form that you will fill out online verifying that you have completed all 14 modules and requesting that Wake AHEC send you the link to the post test. Once you submit the form, you will receive the link to the posttest within two business days.

A score of 80 or higher is required to pass the course. Again, you may use any resources with the exception of others to complete the test. A certificate for 14 contact hours will be available for download at the time you complete the test if you passed. No partial credit will be awarded.

Step 3 allows you to receive ongoing training locally and/or regionally based upon your specific needs.

Step 4 requires you to participate with your peers in current training at the Annual CD Conference.

Please know that we are here to serve you and we will do our very best to give you the information you need and the opportunity to share best practices with us and your peers in other counties. Enjoy the course! Thank you.